

of a printed circuit trace, a switching element and a plated throughhole, the method comprising the steps of:

disposing a plurality of green bodies containing an organic auxiliary agent between porous setter plates, through which a gaseous, organic, bake-out product escapes from the plurality of green bodies developed during at least one of a sintering operation and a binder removal operation, the step of disposing being performed during at least one of the sintering operation and the binder removal operation; and

introducing a catalytically active substance into at least one of (i) pores of at least one of the porous setter plates and (ii) pores of at least one porous separating layer of the porous setter plates, the catalytically active substance converting the gaseous, organic, bake-out product.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance is introduced into the pores of the at least one porous separating layer in the step of introducing.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the catalytically active substance is introduced into the pores of at least one of the porous setter plates.

22. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance is at least one of introduced: (i) into a surface area of at least one of the porous setter plates; (ii) uniformly inside at least one of the porous setter plates; and (iii) the at least one porous separating layer.

23. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance oxidizes an organic hydrocarbon compound.

24. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance converts a high-molecular, organic hydrocarbon compound to a low-molecular, organic hydrocarbon compound.

25. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance includes at least one of platinum, palladium and rhodium.

26. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance is in a form of colloids, the colloids having sizes of 3 nm to 100 nm.

27. (New) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of thermally treating at least one of (i) at least one of the porous setter plates and (ii) the at least one porous separating layer, after the step of introducing the catalytically active substance;

wherein the step of introducing the catalytically active substance is performed by at least one of steeping in a solution and spraying with the solution, the solution containing the catalytically active substance.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the solution is a metallic-salt solution.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the metallic-salt solution is an aqueous solution including at least one of PtCl_6 , PdCl_2 , RhCl_3 , platinum acetate, palladium acetate and rhodium acetate.

30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the solution includes the catalytically active substance in a concentration of 0.1 g/l to 30 g/l.

31. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of thermally treating is performed in a gas atmosphere that at least one of (i) does not oxidize the catalytically active substance and (ii) reduces the catalytically active substance.

32. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of thermally treating is performed over a time period of 30 minutes to 5 hours at a temperature of 100 degrees Celsius to 700 degrees Celsius.

33. (New) A device for producing a formed body, the formed body including at least one of a formed ceramic body, a ceramic sheet and a multilayer hybrid, the formed body having at least one of a printed circuit trace, a switching element and a plated throughhole, the device comprising:

porous setter plates, a plurality of green bodies containing an organic auxiliary agent being disposable between the porous setter plates, through which a gaseous, organic, bake-

out product escapes from the plurality of green bodies developed during at least one of a sintering operation and a binder removal operation;

wherein:

a catalytically active substance is introduced into at least one of (i) pores of at least one of the porous setter plates and (ii) pores of at least one porous separating layer of the porous setter plates, the catalytically active substance converting the gaseous, organic, bake-out product; and
the porous setter plates include gas outlets.

34. (New) The device of claim 33, wherein the catalytically active substance is introduced to a porous arrangement, the porous arrangement including one of (i) at least two of the porous setter plates and (ii) at least two of the porous separating layers, the porous arrangement being for compressing the plurality of green bodies during the at least one of the sintering operation and the binder removal operation.

35. (New) The device of claim 34, wherein the porous arrangement is permeable for at least one of a low-molecular, gaseous, oxidation product CO, CO₂, H₂O, CH₄ and a hydrocarbon.

36. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the formed body is a ceramic multilayer hybrid, and the plurality of green bodies includes a stack of a plurality of green sheets arranged in a justified manner one upon the other and provided with at least one of the printed circuit trace, the switching element and the plated-through hole.

37. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the catalytically active substance is introduced into the pores of the at least one of the porous setter plates in the step of introducing.--.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels without prejudice original claims 1 to 18 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE99/03198, and adds without prejudice new claims 19 to 37. The new claims conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add new matter to the application.